

Hildebrand, Dean C.

From: Hildebrand, Dean C.
Sent: Tuesday, January 08, 2002 2:47 PM
To: 'Joyce Johnson'
Cc: Dean Hildebrand (E-mail)
Subject: RE: Ellyne

Bless you!

-----Original Message-----

From: Joyce Johnson (mailto:JJJOHNSON@etp.ca.gov)
Sent: Tuesday, January 08, 2002 9:30 AM
To: dhildebr@state.nd.us
Subject: RE: Ellyne

Dear Dean: Sorry for your trouble. I know it can be difficult bringing balance to such a situation. Pls do not thank me for what I do for Mom. I really do consider it a blessing to be here for her. How I deal with the frustration is my problem and something for which I will have to answer one day (seed and harvest). I am getting a tiny bit wiser in my old age. FYI and in case she complains to you - - - I have taken the knobs off of her stove (for safety and peace of mind reasons) and confiscated her checkbook and credit cards (to straighten out and reconcile). Big mess! She keeps calling the companies to dispute charges and they close her accounts and issue new cards, etc., etc. She never registers checks she writes. I have closed everything but her VISA which I have in my wallet. I keep her in cash from the ATM and when she needs to pay a bill, I will write the check. I have changed mailing addresses on everything so I can better see what is happening. She has been excellent about all of this. I feel a lot of guilt about stripping her of practically all power. Once I straighten out her finances, I will give her stuff back (maybe). Her phone bill is \$130!! Twice as much as mine! She didn't pay it until they threatened to disconnect her. Anyway, all that is over and taken care of. The only account I haven't gotten a handle on is Marshall Fields in Minneapolis. One of the biggest issues now is that she goes down to the dining room very late for her meals causing a big commotion. The staff has complained to me and also my friend's mother lives there and has mentioned it to me. The servers has to make special accommodations, etc. She denies this vehemently. She sleeps in late or goes back to bed, doesn't eat breakfast or take her meds which makes her really goofy. I made her promise me that b4 she calls me she should eat breakfast and take her meds. She is very sloppy about her medication. She basically is in good physical health except for her legs. I got her some vitamin B12 which is suppose to be good for focus and memory. I will keep you updated. Love you. JJ

>>> "Hildebrand, Dean C." <dhildebr@state.nd.us> 01/07/02 03:30PM >>>
Dearest Joyce:

I'm in a bit of trouble here. The Governor wants to open the pheasant season a week early and the sportsmen of North Dakota think he is caving into the guides and outfitters (those who make a living on nonresident hunters coming to hunt. This would give them another week of business) The residents hate the commercialization of North Dakota wildlife and I am caught right in the middle.

I was in Las Cruces, New Mexico this past weekend for a Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies meeting. I had to fly from Bismarck to Minneapolis. then to Houston on to El Paso and then drive to Las Cruces. I got back late last night and am really behind in the office.

I feel so sorry for Ellyne. We have her in our prayers every day - the same for Mother. I pray for you and Bart. I can't imagine how tough it is for you deal with her memory loss and some of the things she does. I call her quite a lot and try to keep her spirit up, but it's really hard for her to relate.

I truly appreciate when you keep me informed. I feel like I am leaving you hanging. Joey and I had talked about coming to visit her, but I don't know when? Do you have any suggestions. I really don't want to put you folks through a lot of trouble. I know you are busy.

Please keep me in the loop. I will give Marion a ring. I got a card from Lois Hess. Clinto fell and broke both hips and is in a home that is caring for him and trying to do physical therapy that will allow him to walk.

I love you sister.....please greet Bart and Daniel. We are praying for you all.

Dean

-----Original Message-----

From: Joyce Johnson (mailto:JJJOHNSON@etp.ca.gov)
Sent: Thursday, January 03, 2002 9:52 AM
To: dchildebr@state.nd.us
Subject: Ellyne

Good morning, Dean. Last night Ellyne called and said she had "bad" news. She learned yesterday she had a blocked carotid artery (just like Orion). Over the last few weeks she has had a few spells, including passing out a couple of times. She then spent a few days in the hospital for tests which revealed this blockage. She is very concerned and told me she will seek a second opinion after she finishes this last battery of tests. She has also dug in her heels and said she would not have surgery. I guess because of what happened to Orion. I have no idea what other options are open to her. I also am not sure she can depend on her sons for support. Maybe somewhat hopefully a lot. I asked her not to tell Mother. Further, Marion is living with constant, unbearable pains in her legs. She had back surgery last year and has since been suffering constantly. She is living on heavy-duty pain killers. Gosh, I am beginning to sound like Mother - always with the bad news! Mom's physical health is pretty good. I will call next week and schedule her for a complete physical. She hasn't seen the doctor for months. Her bad memory and constant repeating are very wearing. I have prayed very hard that I would be more patient with her and so far, so good. Another time. I will update you on some of the stuff that has been going on with her and the steps I have taken. Love you, JJ.